

History of the Advisory Council

1998-2003 Advisory Committee to the Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Program

In 1998, MaryAnn Amrich, Director of the Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Program, met with Carole Cifrino, Director of the Dept. of Environmental Protection (DEP) Lead Program and Roger Bondeson, Director of Maine State Housing Authority (MSHA)'s Lead Safe Housing Program. They agreed to work together with one state advisory committee.

The Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Program invited 20 members that were representative of key areas in health, housing, and communities.

The Advisory Committee identified critical needs and offered recommendations to assist the Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Program in drafting policies and implementing programmatic changes.

The highlighted accomplishments for this period include:

- Initial analysis of statewide lead screening data.
- Lowered threshold lead level for case management and environmental intervention by the Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Program.
- Strengthened partnerships between state and non-state agencies to offer more resources to parents.
- Developed lead screening guidelines for healthcare providers.
 - A new lead screening law passed in 2002.
- Increased public awareness of childhood lead poisoning with websites, brochures, public service announcements, and “Dusty, the Dog” an interactive display purchased by the Maine State Housing Authority for Children’s Museums and public events.
- Improved offerings of lead training workshops to contractors, landlords and homeowners.

2003 – present

LEAd-ME – the Lead Elimination Advisory (council) of Maine

Maine has a goal to eliminate childhood lead poisoning by the year 2010. This goal is part of the Healthy Maine 2010 objectives and is written into Maine law.

In 2003, the Advisory Committee was re-organized. Some members left while new members joined the new Advisory Council.

The Advisory Council members assisted the Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Program in drafting a *Strategic Plan to Eliminate Childhood Lead Poisoning in Maine by 2010*. Steps in drafting this plan included:

- Reviewed current statewide data, state agency and private infrastructure
- Drafted comprehensive goals
- Developed a “Logic Model” to depict the linkage between outcomes and activities/ processes
- Identified 4 key component areas
 1. Housing
 2. Health
 3. Community Mobilization
 4. Non-Housing Exposure Sources

Sub-committees formed for each of the 4 component areas. The sub-committee members identified strategies to meet the objectives in each component area. Sub-committees began work on their priority strategies in 2004. The strategies fall into 3 primary methods:

1. Education
2. Housing Remediation
3. Protective Public Policies

Legislation Several bills were submitted in the 2005 legislative sessions. The passage of 2 of the bills resulted in

1. The inclusion of a stronger warning on lease and real estate disclosure forms.
2. A fee on paint at the manufacturer and distributor level to support a state lead education initiative.